

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM BROWN, AKA MINISTER
KING X, & ALL OF US OR NONE,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GAVIN NEWSOM, et. al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:24-cv-01281-DJC-CSK

ORDER

Pending before the Court is a Motion to Dismiss (Mot. to Dismiss ("Mot") (ECF No. 67)), Plaintiff William Brown, AKA Minister King X ("King") and Plaintiff All of Us or None's ("AOUON") First Amended Complaint (First Am. Compl. ("FAC") (ECF No. 61)), against Defendants State of California, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Governor Gavin Newsom, Secretary Jeff Macomber, and John Does 1-10. Plaintiffs primarily challenge California Penal Code Section 4571, which prohibits anyone who has been previously convicted of a felony to be present on the grounds adjacent to any State prison without the prior permission of the Warden or other prison officials. Plaintiffs argue that section 4571 is unconstitutionally vague, overbroad, and is an unreasonable restriction on speech in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments. Plaintiffs also challenge King's arrest under that statute.

For the reasons discussed below, the Court concludes that neither King nor AOUON have alleged sufficient facts to confer Article III standing. Additionally, the Court concludes that Defendants State of California, CDCR, Governor Newsom and Secretary Macomber should be dismissed under the Eleventh Amendment. Thus, the Court grants Defendant's Motion to Dismiss with leave to amend.

I. Factual Background

King and AOUON bring suit against the State of California, CDCR, Governor Gavin Newsom, Secretary Jeff Macomber, and John Does 1-10 following King's arrest in Oakland, California on August 9, 2021. (FAC ¶ 61.) King was arrested and charged with violating Penal Code Section 4571.¹ (*Id.* ¶ 64.) Plaintiffs allege that the code section is rarely employed and that CDCR employees typically exercise their discretion not to refer similarly situated individuals for prosecution. (*Id.*) However, they claim that individuals labeled as "Black identity extremists" are retaliated against "at a rate higher than that of individuals who are not so labelled." (*Id.* ¶ 68.)

King serves as a representative for formerly and currently incarcerated individuals and is a Program Director at California Prison Focus, a civil rights organization based in Oakland, California. (*Id.* ¶ 10.) King also operates the YouTube channel "Kage Universal." (*Id.* ¶ 41.) AOUON is a group of formerly and currently incarcerated individuals whose mission includes "fight[ing] against the discrimination that people face every day because of arrest or conviction history." (*Id.* ¶ 14.) Members of AOUON have attended protests and demonstrations in the vicinity of California prisons and jails as part of their advocacy efforts. (*Id.* ¶ 11.)

The following allegations, many of which are made "on information and belief," are taken from the First Amended Complaint. In July 2021, King, and members of

¹ Penal Code section 4571 states: "every person who, having previously been convicted of a felony and confined in any State prison in this State, without the consent of the warden or other officer in charge of any State prison or prison road camp, or prison forestry camp, or other prison camp or prison farm or any place where prisoners of the State prison are located under the custody of prison officials, officers or employees, or any jail or any county road camp in this State, comes upon the grounds of any such institution, or lands belonging or adjacent thereto, is guilty of a felony." (*Id.* ¶ 23.)

1 AOUON attended a protest on the public sidewalk near the California State Medical
2 Facility in Vacaville, California. (*Id.* ¶ 24.) During the protest, CDCR employees exited
3 the outer gates of the facility and confronted the group. (*Id.* ¶ 30.) The employees
4 began taking photographs and videos of the protestors and followed them into a
5 nearby neighborhood. (*Id.* ¶ 36.)

6 According to Plaintiffs, some of the CDCR employees at the protest were also
7 part of the CDCR's Investigative Services Unit ("CDCR-ISU") and had surveilled King's
8 social media accounts prior to the protest. (*Id.* ¶ 39.) CDCR-ISU employees classified
9 King's YouTube channel as promoting a "Black supremacist extremist ideology" and
10 labeled King as a "Black supremacist extremist" and "Black identity extremist."
11 (*Id.* ¶ 42.) The classification comes from an FBI intelligence assessment that was
12 disseminated to CDCR-ISU employees and used to target individuals for prosecution
13 based on protected First Amendment activity. (*Id.* ¶ 45.) Plaintiffs allege that a written
14 or unwritten policy exists within CDCR-ISU to target individuals labeled as "Black
15 identity extremists" or "Black supremacist extremists" for retaliation at a higher rate
16 than that of those who are not so labeled. (*Id.* ¶ 68.)

17 The next day, King's parole officer was contacted by CDCR staff and told to
18 investigate King and his involvement in the recent protest. (*Id.* ¶ 52.) Plaintiffs allege
19 that that King was specifically targeted because he was classified as a "Black identity
20 extremist." (*Id.* ¶ 57.) From this day until King's arrest on August 9, 2021, Plaintiffs
21 allege that CDCR continued to surveil King's social media posts. (*Id.* ¶ 55.)

22 Following his arrest, King was taken to the Solano County Justice Center
23 Detention Facility where he was incarcerated for nine days, at which point the charges
24 against him were dropped. (*Id.* ¶¶ 63, 70.) King was represented by two members of
25 the Legal Services for Prisoners with Children ("LSPC") team, who expended work time
26 on his case. (*Id.* ¶ 72.) LSPC is the sister organization of AOUON. As a result of King's
27 arrest and prosecution, Plaintiffs have reduced the extent of their participation in
28 protests out of fear of prosecution for violating section 4571. (*Id.* ¶ 74.) Specifically,

1 AOUON members are fearful of demonstrating in “traditional public forums in the
2 vicinity of the type of facilities listed” in the code section. (*Id.*)

3 Defendants now argue that Plaintiff’s suit should be dismissed for lack of
4 jurisdiction and failure to state a claim on the merits. Plaintiffs oppose the motion.
5 (Opp. (ECF No. 72)). On October 3, 2024, the Parties appeared in Court for oral
6 argument. The Court took the matter under submission.

7 **II. Legal Standard**

8 **A. Motion to Dismiss for Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction under Rule** 9 **12(b)(1)**

10 A party may move to dismiss a complaint for “lack of subject matter jurisdiction”
11 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1). Challenges to a plaintiff’s Article III
12 standing are properly raised under a 12(b)(1) motion as standing is required for a
13 federal court to exercise jurisdiction. *Chandler v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 598
14 F.3d 1115, 1122 (9th Cir. 2010); *Nat’l Fed’n of the Blind of Cal. v. Uber Techs., Inc.*, 103
15 F. Supp. 3d 1073, 1078 (N.D. Cal. 2015). Challenges regarding sovereign immunity
16 can also be brought through a 12(b)(1) motion. *Sato v. Orange Cnty. Dep’t of Ed.*, 861
17 F.3d 923, 927 n.2 (9th Cir. 2017) (“A sovereign immunity defense is ‘quasi-
18 jurisdictional’ in nature and may be raised in either a 12(b)(1) or 12(b)(6) motion.”).
19 Under 12(b)(1), a party may raise a facial or factual challenge. See *Leite v. Crane Co.*,
20 749 F.3d 1117, 1121 (9th Cir. 2014). In a facial challenge, taking the allegations in the
21 complaint as true, “the court must determine whether a lack of federal jurisdiction
22 appears from the face of the complaint itself.” *Nat’l Fed’n of the Blind*, 103 F. Supp. 3d
23 at 1078. “[The] party invoking the federal court’s jurisdiction has the burden of
24 proving the actual existence of subject matter jurisdiction.” *Thompson v. McCombe*,
25 99 F.3d 352, 353 (9th Cir. 1996); *Chandler*, 598 F.3d at 1122.²

26
27 ² Defendants also move to dismiss the action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6). However,
28 the Court ultimately resolves this matter on standing and Eleventh Amendment grounds and does not reach the merits. Therefore, the instant Motion is appropriately resolved under 12(b)(1).

III. Discussion

A. Plaintiffs Have Not Pled Article III Standing

Article III requires plaintiffs bringing suit to present a justiciable “case or controversy.” *Benton v. Md.*, 395 U.S. 784, 788 (1969) (internal citations omitted). To meet the requirements of Article III, plaintiffs must demonstrate standing by showing they suffered an “injury in fact” that is fairly traceable to the actions of the defendants and that the injury will be “redressed by a favorable decision.” See *Lujan v. Defens. of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560–61 (1992) (internal citations omitted). To show an injury in fact, the alleged injury must be (1) “concrete” and “not abstract” (2) particularized, meaning that it affects the plaintiff individually, rather than in a generalized manner and (3) is either real or imminent such that it has occurred or will likely occur soon. *Ariz. All. for Retired Ams. v. Mayes*, 117 F.4th 1165, 1173 (9th Cir. 2024) (citing *FDA v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. 367, 381 (2024)). Where a plaintiff seeks prospective relief, the injury in fact must also be imminent. See *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 564. To satisfy causation, plaintiffs must show a sufficiently close and predictable link between the challenged action and their injury in fact. *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1173 (citing *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 383). To show redressability, plaintiffs must show that a favorable ruling will cure their injury. *Id.* at 1174 (citing *California v. Texas*, 593 U.S. 659, 671 (2021)).

1. First and Fourteenth Amendment Claims

Plaintiffs bring four claims based on the First and Fourteenth Amendments: Counts One, Two, Three, and Five. (See generally FAC.) Plaintiffs argue they have standing because their speech has been chilled by enforcement of section 4571 against King. (See Opp. at 7.) Defendants claim that AOUON has not alleged organizational or associational standing, that this case does not involve the First Amendment, and that Plaintiffs cannot seek prospective relief based on the injuries alleged. (Mot. at 6–7.)

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i. AOUON Has Not Alleged an Injury in Fact

AOUON has not properly alleged an injury in fact such that it can bring the claims asserted in this suit. First, AOUON has failed to allege associational standing because they have not provided any connection between their organization and the alleged policy that exists within CDCR. Second, AOUON has failed to allege a theory of organizational standing based on frustration of purpose, diversion of resources, and pre-enforcement injury. The Court discusses each of these arguments in turn.

a. AOUON Lacks Associational Standing

To state associational standing, Plaintiffs must show that (1) its members would otherwise have standing to sue in their own right; (2) that the interests it seeks to protect are germane to the organization's purpose; and (3) neither the claim asserted, nor the relief requested requires the participation of individual members in the lawsuit. *Hunt v. Wash. State Apple Advert. Com'n*, 432 U.S. 333, 342 (1977).

Here, the Court finds that Plaintiffs have not made it clear that any individual in their membership would be able to sue. During argument, Plaintiffs expressed concern about specifically naming individuals from their membership who have been labeled as "Black identity extremists." See *NAACP v. State of Ala. ex. rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 458-59 (1958). However, Plaintiffs need not go that far. The issue currently is that AOUON makes no allegations that the label has ever been associated with their organization or with any members of the organization such that their membership would be at risk of discriminatory enforcement of section 4571. Nor do the allegations state that King is a member of AOUON. Therefore, the Court finds that Plaintiffs have not alleged associational standing.

b. AOUON Lacks Organizational Standing

To state organizational standing, an organization must allege "(1) that it has been or will imminently be injured, (2) that the injury was caused or will be caused by the defendant's conduct, and (3) that the injury is redressable." *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1172 (citing *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 395-96). In reliance on the Supreme

1 Court's decision in *Hippocratic Medicine*, the Ninth Circuit recently overturned its
2 previous caselaw that conferred standing on organizations for merely alleging that a
3 challenged policy (1) frustrated an organization's mission and (2) required it to spend
4 money or divert resources in response. *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1174-76.

5 To show injury in fact, an organization must show that the challenged policy
6 directly affects the organization's "core" business activities rather than just its "abstract
7 social mission." *Id.* at 1177 (internal citations omitted). "General legal, moral,
8 ideological and policy concerns do not suffice on their own to confer Article III
9 standing to sue in federal court." *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 386. Here,
10 AOUON describes that its mission is to "fight against the discrimination that people
11 face every day because of arrest or conviction history." (FAC ¶ 14.) Plaintiffs argue
12 that by targeting people with felonies, enforcement of Penal Code section 4571
13 directly impacts individuals who comprise AOUON's membership, thereby impairing
14 their organizational mission. However, the fact that a law would apply to individuals
15 within a group does not constitute direct harm to a "core business activity."

16 In *Havens Realty v. Coleman*, the Supreme Court held that harm to a "core
17 business activity" existed where plaintiff organization's housing counseling service was
18 directly impacted by defendant landlord's racial steering practices. See 455 U.S. 363,
19 368 (1982). Importantly, had the organization's injury been based solely on its "public
20 advocacy" or "public education" functions, it would not have been granted standing.
21 *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1177 (citing *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 394). Here,
22 Plaintiffs' current allegations are more akin to a harm to their public advocacy
23 functions rather than a core business activity.

24 Additionally, Plaintiffs' claim that LSPC spent resources defending King
25 following his arrest is not sufficient for standing. First, it is unclear that AOUON
26 suffered any harm because the work time came from its sister organization rather than
27 from AOUON itself. Second, even if the work time diversion could be attributed to
28 AOUON, it is unclear to the Court that this argument is anything more than

1 an organization “manufactur[ing] its own standing” by exerting resources in response
 2 to a government policy rather than showing any direct harm to its core business
 3 activities. See *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 394. Even under the prior “diversion
 4 of resources” analysis, the costs of litigation were generally insufficient to constitute an
 5 injury. See *Smith v. Pac. Prop. and Dev. Corp.*, 358 F.3d 1097, 1105 (9th Cir. 2004)
 6 (quoting *Walker v. City of Lakewood*, 272 F.3d 1114, 1124 n.3 (9th Cir. 2001)).
 7 Therefore, AOUON lacks organizational standing based on the allegations in the First
 8 Amended Complaint. See *Hippocratic Medicine*, 602 U.S. at 395.

9 **c. AOUON Lacks a Pre-Enforcement Injury**

10 While AOUON lacks standing under traditional Article III principles, where a
 11 plaintiff alleges a First Amendment injury, the inquiry “tilts dramatically toward a
 12 finding of standing.” *LSO, Ltd. v. Stroh*, 205 F.3d 1146, 1155 (9th Cir. 2000). A party
 13 may have pre-enforcement standing if they allege “an intention to engage in a course
 14 of conduct arguably affected with a constitutional interest, but proscribed by a statute,
 15 and there exists a credible threat of prosecution thereunder.” *Susan B. Anthony v.*
 16 *Driehaus*, 573 U.S. 149, 159 (2014). However, in stating a First Amendment claim,
 17 plaintiffs cannot “nakedly assert [] that his or her speech was chilled. . . .” *Twitter, Inc.*
 18 *v. Paxton*, 56 F.4th 1170, 1174 (9th Cir. 2022) (citing *Cal. Pro-Life Council, Inc. v.*
 19 *Getman*, 328 F.3d 1088, 1095) (9th Cir. 2003)). Rather, plaintiffs must show that their
 20 expressive activity is chilled because of a “realistic danger” of prosecution. *Ariz. All.*
 21 *117 F.4th at 1181* (quoting *Libertarian Party of L.A. Cnty. v. Bowen*, 709 F.3d 867, 870
 22 (9th Cir. 2013)).

23 A plaintiff has pre-enforcement standing if they have “alleged a sufficiently
 24 imminent injury for the purposes of Article III.” *Driehaus*, 573 U.S. at 152. The Ninth
 25 Circuit uses a three-part inquiry for pre-enforcement injuries that analyzes (1) whether
 26 the plaintiff has a “concrete plan” to violate the law (2) whether the enforcement
 27 authorities have communicated a specific warning or threat to initiate proceedings
 28

1 and (3) whether there is a “history of past prosecution or enforcement.”³ *Alaska Right*
 2 *to Life Pol. Action Comm. v. Feldman*, 504 F.3d 840, 849 (9th Cir. 2007) (quoting
 3 *Getman*, 328 F.3d at 1094). In 2014, the Supreme Court outlined the following
 4 requirements for a pre-enforcement injury: (1) a plaintiff must allege an “intention to
 5 engage in a course of conduct arguably affected with a constitutional interest,” (2) the
 6 intended future conduct must be “arguably. . . proscribed by [the challenged] statute,”
 7 and (3) there must be a credible threat of enforcement.” *Driehaus*, 573 U.S. at 159
 8 (citing *Babbitt v. Farm Workers*, 442 U.S. 289, 298 (1979)). The Ninth Circuit rejected
 9 the claim that *Driehaus* “abrogated” the prior three-part inquiry, *Unified Data Servs.,*
 10 *LLC v. FTC*, 39 F.4th 1200, 1210 n.9 (9th Cir. 2022), and has since “toggled between”
 11 these frameworks when analyzing pre-enforcement injuries, *Peace Ranch, LLC v.*
 12 *Bonta*, 93 F.4th 482, 487 (9th Cir. 2024).

13 In *Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans v. Mayes*, the Ninth Circuit analyzed
 14 whether a “realistic danger” of enforcement existed in the First Amendment context
 15 using its three-part test, albeit incorporating *Driehaus* within its reasoning. See *Ariz.*
 16 *All.*, 117 F.4th at 1181–82. In light of *Arizona Alliance*, this Order will use a similar
 17 analysis in assessing Plaintiffs’ First Amendment pre-enforcement claims. However,
 18 for the reasons below, AOUON fails to state a pre-enforcement injury under either
 19 formulation of factors, which largely cover the same considerations. Particularly, the
 20 facts alleged do not plausibly suggest a “genuine threat of imminent prosecution.”
 21 *Unified Data*, 39 F.4th at 1210 (citations omitted) (emphasis included).

22 To show a concrete plan, AOUON must allege the specific conduct in which
 23 they intend to engage. See *Driehaus*, 573 U.S. at 161. The Ninth Circuit has generally
 24 held that this is satisfied where the “plaintiff’s intended speech *arguably* falls within the
 25 statute’s reach.” *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1182 (emphasis included). Ninth Circuit

26
 27 ³ The factor regarding history of enforcement carries little weight when the challenged law is relatively
 28 new, and the record contains little information as to enforcement. *Tingley v. Ferguson*, 47 F.4th 1055,
 1069 (9th Cir. 2022).

1 precedent also states that allegations must include information about the “when, to
2 whom, where or under what circumstances.” *Seattle Pac. Univ. v. Ferguson*, 104 F.4th
3 50, 59 (referencing *Lopez v. Candaele*, 630 F.3d 775, 787 (9th Cir. 2010)). Here,
4 AOUON states that they intend to continue participating in their protests and
5 demonstrations in the future. However, the current pleadings do not indicate a plan
6 to protest in the areas prohibited by section 4571. Plaintiffs allege that AOUON
7 intends to protest outside the State Capitol, but do not explain how that would put
8 their members at risk of violating the code section. This is not to say that AOUON
9 cannot meet this prong. Rather, the allegations, as currently pled, do not indicate
10 more than a “hypothetical intent” to violate the law.

11 Under the second prong, a specific threat or warning of prosecution is relevant
12 but not necessary to establish standing. See *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1182. In *Tingley v.*
13 *Ferguson*, although the plaintiff did not present a specific threat of enforcement, the
14 Ninth Circuit determined that a “combination of other circumstances amounted to a
15 credible threat of enforcement.” *Isaacson v. Mayes*, 84 F.4th 1089, 1100 (9th Cir.
16 2023) (discussing *Tingley*, 47 F.4th at 1068). Here, Plaintiffs allege a chilling effect but
17 provide no allegations about “other circumstances” that would indicate they are
18 susceptible to enforcement. See *Isaacson*, 84 F.4th at 1100-01 (stating that the
19 combination of threats from county attorneys, Arizona health agencies and private
20 parties was sufficient to allege imminent future injury); *Tingley*, 47 F.4th at 1068
21 (finding that Washington’s general warning of enforcement coupled with plaintiff’s
22 self-censorship in the face of the law satisfied the second prong). In light of Plaintiff’s
23 allegations that section 4571 is “rarely employed” (FAC ¶¶ 65, 66) the Court cannot
24 determine if this prong is met.

25 Lastly, Plaintiffs have not demonstrated a history of enforcement that would
26 indicate that the harm to AOUON is more than merely speculative. The allegations
27 discuss King’s arrest and prosecution but make no mention of any others that have
28 taken place since the law’s inception. The case here is unlike *Arizona Alliance*, where

1 the Ninth Circuit found that Plaintiff's inability to show a history of enforcement did not
2 undermine standing because the challenged law was enjoined the day after it took
3 effect. *Ariz. All.*, 117 F.4th at 1182. Rather, section 4571 is alleged to have existed
4 since 1941. Thus, the "sparse" allegations of enforcement "weigh against standing."
5 *Tingley*, 47 F.4th at 1069.

6 For the above reasons, the Court finds that AOUON has not stated a pre-
7 enforcement injury.

8 **ii. King Has Not Alleged an Injury in Fact**

9 Although a closer call, the Court finds that King has not established standing to
10 bring First Amendment claims. Plaintiffs allege a chilling effect on King's speech and
11 participation in protests and demonstrations following his arrest. (FAC ¶ 74 alleging
12 that King has reduced the extent of his participation in demonstrations and protests
13 due to a fear of being prosecuted for a violation of section 4571, including by
14 abstaining from participating in protests, participating in a less visible role, and
15 altering the content of his speech and signs.)

16 In reaching this conclusion, the Court applies the same threat of enforcement
17 factors described above. *See Porter v. Martinez*, 68 F.4th 429, 437 (9th Cir. 2023). In
18 considering the concrete plan factor, courts have relaxed the details required for
19 stating a concrete plan where a plaintiff has previously violated the law in question.
20 *See Tingley*, 47 F.4th at 1068 ("[W]e do not require plaintiffs to specify, 'when, whom,
21 where, or under what circumstances' they plan to violate the law when they have
22 already violated the law in the past."). Unlike other cases in which the Ninth Circuit has
23 relaxed the concrete plan factor, however, the pleadings do not sufficiently indicate
24 that King seeks to protest adjacent to facilities listed in Penal Code section 4571 in the
25 future. *See Porter*, 68 F.4th at 437 (finding that plaintiff stating she wanted to
26 specifically engage in the prohibited activity in the future but wouldn't out of fear of
27 enforcement contributed to finding that concrete plan existed); *Tingley* 47 F.4th at
28 1067 (finding a concrete plan where there were specific allegations of past work and

1 expectations for future work that would violate the challenged law). Even the
2 allegation regarding the upcoming protest outside the State Capitol (which again,
3 would not violate section 4571) refers only to AOUON, and not King. (FAC ¶ 12.)

4 As to the remaining factors, the second prong leans in King's favor, as he was
5 previously arrested and prosecuted under the code section he now challenges. See
6 *Porter*, 68 F.4th at 437. However, as discussed above, the history of enforcement as
7 alleged is "sparse" which "weighs against standing." *Tingley*, 47 F.4th at 1069.
8 Considering the factors together, the Court finds that King has not stated an injury
9 sufficient for Article III standing.

10 **2. Fourth Amendment Claims**

11 Plaintiffs also bring one claim based on an alleged violation of the Fourth
12 Amendment. Plaintiffs seek prospective relief on the grounds that King was falsely
13 arrested for violating section 4571 because of his participation in a lawful
14 demonstration. Defendants argue that prospective relief is improper because the
15 likelihood that the harm will reoccur is speculative and unsubstantial. (Mot. at 8-9.)

16 A plaintiff has standing to seek prospective injunctive and declaratory relief
17 when she faces an ongoing injury or real and immediate threat of future injury. See
18 *City of L.A. v. Lyons*, 461 U.S. 95, 107 n.8 (1983). "Past exposure to illegal conduct
19 does not in itself show a present case or controversy. . . if unaccompanied by any
20 continuing, present effects." *O'Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488, 495-96 (1974). Instead,
21 the plaintiff must show that [he is] realistically threatened by a repetition of the
22 violation at issue. *Id.* at 496.

23 AOUON lacks standing to bring this claim under organizational and
24 associational theories for the reasons discussed above. The harms alleged by
25 AOUON are largely speculative, as there are no allegations that anyone in their
26 membership has ever been arrested or targeted for arrest under section 4571.
27 Additionally, King does not have standing to seek prospective relief here because the
28 only harm he has alleged is a single arrest back in 2021. (FAC ¶ 57.) Furthermore,

1 from the time of King's arrest until the filing of the Complaint, no other allegations of
2 unconstitutional acts by CDCR employees were mentioned. A single arrest, without
3 more, is not sufficient to suggest a likelihood of repeated harm. See *Lyons*, 461 U.S. at
4 107-110 (discussing how a previous constitutional violation that occurred five months
5 prior to the filing of the complaint does not alone indicate that there is a likelihood of
6 future harm). Therefore, neither Plaintiff has standing to bring the Fourth Amendment
7 claim.

8 **B. Named Defendants Have Eleventh Amendment Immunity**

9 Under the Eleventh Amendment and broader notions of sovereign immunity,
10 states and state officials are barred from suit in many instances. See *Brooks v. Sulphur*
11 *Springs Valley Elec. Coop.*, 951 F.2d 1050, 1053 (9th Cir. 1991). An exception to this
12 principle is the *Ex parte Young* doctrine, which allows suits for prospective relief
13 against state officials, acting in their official capacity if the official has "some
14 connection" to the alleged injury. *Mecinas v. Hobbs*, 30 F.4th 890, 903 (9th Cir. 2022)
15 (internal citations omitted). The connection must extend beyond a "supervisory" role
16 and should be "fairly direct." *Snoek v. Brussa*, 153 F.3d 984, 986 (9th Cir. 1998)
17 (internal citations omitted).

18 During the Motion to Dismiss hearing, the Court dismissed the State of
19 California, CDCR and Governor Newsom from this suit with prejudice finding that
20 Plaintiffs would not be able to allege facts that would overcome the bar from suit. The
21 Court also dismissed Secretary Macomber with leave to amend, finding that Plaintiffs
22 had not yet alleged a sufficient connection between the enforcement and their injury.
23 Since neither Plaintiff has established standing, and all the named Defendants are
24 dismissed from the suit on Eleventh Amendment grounds, the Court need not reach
25 the merits of the claims presented.

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IV. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the State of California, CDCR and Governor Gavin Newsom is GRANTED without leave to amend. Secretary Jeff Macomber is also dismissed with leave to amend. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the case for lack of standing is GRANTED, also with leave to amend. Plaintiff shall file a second amended complaint within twenty-one (21) days of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 10, 2025


Hon. Daniel J. Calabretta
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE